

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently amended) A method for reducing sepsis-associated lethality in a mammal ~~that develops~~ with sepsis, the method comprising the step of:
 - (a) administering an amount of isolated or purified tissue cytotoxic factor – II (TCF-II) effective to reduce sepsis-associated lethality, ~~wherein TCF-II is administered before onset of sepsis in the mammal.~~
3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered intravenously, intramuscularly or subcutaneously.
4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is produced recombinantly.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, comprising the additional step, prior to step (a), of

purifying an amount of TCF-II effective to treat sepsis.
- 6-7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the TCF-II is administered to the mammal in conjunction with a pH conditioner, buffer or stabilizer.
9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 0.6 mg to about 600 mg of TCF-II.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the amount of TCF-II is from about 6 mg to about 60 mg of TCF-II.

11-35. (Canceled)